



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

San Diego Region

Winston H. Hickox
Secretary for
Environmental
Protection

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Gray Davis
Governor

DATE: February 3, 2003

TO: Interested Parties

RE: **2003 TRIENNIAL REVIEW OF BASIN PLAN**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (Regional Board) is conducting a Triennial Review of the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin (Basin Plan) and is seeking public comments on the need to review and revise the Basin Plan. Written comments on water quality standards or other Basin Plan issues will be accepted during a 43-day solicitation period **beginning January 31, 2003 and closing March 14, 2003**. During the solicitation period, a public workshop has been scheduled for 1:30 p.m. on Monday, **March 3, 2003** at the Regional Board. During the workshop, the public will have the opportunity to comment on the Triennial Review process and on Basin Plan issues. A copy of the Notice of Public Solicitation Period and Public Workshop for Basin Plan Triennial Review is enclosed.

The Basin Plan designates beneficial uses for water bodies in the San Diego Region, and establishes water quality objectives and implementation plans to protect those beneficial uses. Both state and federal laws mandate the periodic review and update of Basin Plans. The periodic review is conducted approximately every three years, therefore it is appropriately called the "Triennial Review." The primary purpose of the Triennial Review is to review water quality standards (i.e., water quality objectives and beneficial uses) and take public comment on issues the Regional Board should address in the future. The Triennial Review is not a Basin Plan amendment. During the Triennial Review the Regional Board develops and adopts a prioritized list of Basin Plan issues which will be used by the Regional Board to direct basin planning efforts for the next three years.

Comment Submittals

Use of the enclosed 2003 Basin Plan Triennial Review Comment Submittal Form is strongly recommended. All submittals should include, at a minimum, the following information:

1. **Submitting Organization:** This section should include the name of the organization, entity or person submitting the Basin Plan issue(s) for consideration during the 2003 Triennial Review process.
2. **Contact Person:** This section should include the name, address, phone number(s), and e-mail address for the contact person that can answer questions about the information provided.

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3. **Name of Basin Plan Issue:** This section should include the name of the Basin Plan issue. This name will be used to identify the issue throughout the 2003 Triennial Review process.
4. **Affected Waterbody(ies) and Watershed(s):** This section should identify the waterbody(ies) and watershed(s) affected by the Basin Plan issue, using the nomenclature as described in the Basin Plan for hydrologic units, areas and subareas. A map should be submitted to identify the affected waterbody(ies) and watershed(s).
5. **Concise Summary of Basin Plan Issue:** This section should describe in one or two sentences the essence of the Basin Plan Issue.
6. **Detailed Description of Basin Plan Issue:** This section should include a comprehensive description of the Basin Plan Issue.
7. **Result/Goal of Basin Plan Issue:** This section should describe the intended result or goal of the Basin Plan issue.
8. **Justification:** This section should provide detailed rationale to support the Basin Plan issue (i.e., why should the Regional Board consider this issue?).
9. **Supporting Information or Data:** List any existing documents and/or data that the Regional Board should consider is reviewing the Basin Plan issue.
10. **Affected Parties:** Provide a list of potential stakeholders who could be affected by the Basin Plan issue (i.e., municipalities, businesses, agriculture, residents, industries, etc.).
11. **Recommended Priority:** If submitting multiple Basin Plan issues for consideration, rank each issue in the order of relative importance, assigning rank 1 to the highest priority issue.

Important Deadlines for Comment Submittals

Solicitation Period Opens	Friday, January 31, 2003
Public Workshop	Monday, March 3, 2003
Solicitation Period Closes	Friday, March 14, 2003
Final date for submitting comments	Friday, March 14, 2003

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Comments on Basin Plan issues received **after 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 14, 2003, will not be evaluated, or included** on the 2003 tentative Triennial Review List of Basin Plan Issues to be considered by the Regional Board.

Informational Workshop

An informational workshop will be conducted on Monday, **March 3, 2003, at 1:30 p.m.**, at the Regional Board office located at 9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100, San Diego. The Notice of Public Solicitation Period and Public Workshop is enclosed. The purpose of this workshop is to (1) provide an overview of the Triennial Review process, (2) answer questions, and (3) hear comments from the public. In preparation for the workshop, interested parties are encouraged to send their questions to tri_review@rb9.swrcb.ca.gov prior to the workshop so that they can be addressed during the presentation.

Formal Public Hearing

The Regional Board will hold a formal public hearing in the summer of 2003 to consider adopting a resolution to approve the 2003 tentative Triennial Review List of Basin Plan Issues developed during the review. Opportunities for review of the prioritized list and public comments on the list will be announced at a later date.

Options for Obtaining Future Triennial Review Information

The Regional Board would like to keep interested parties fully informed during the Triennial Review Process. However, **future mailings** of communications, notices, and announcements pertaining to the Triennial Review **will only be made to persons who specifically request this information.** To receive updates you must: 1) subscribe to our electronic mailing list; or 2) send us a request to have information sent to you via U. S. Mail as described below. You may also obtain information at your convenience from our website or by appointment at the San Diego Regional Board office. New and updated information will frequently become available throughout the review process. Therefore, should you select to obtain information via option 3 or 4 described below, it will be your responsibility to visit our website or our office regularly to obtain the most recent information.

1. 2003 Basin Plan Triennial Review Electronic Mail List Subscription

Instructions (enclosed):

If you select this option, the Regional Board will send Triennial Review communications, notices, and announcements directly to your e-mail account.

2. 2003 Basin Plan Triennial Review U.S. Mail List Subscription Form (enclosed):

If you select this option, the Regional Board will send Triennial Review communications, notices, and announcements to you via the U.S. mail service.

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3. Internet Access to Triennial Review Information:

Documents related to the Triennial Review will be available for online viewing on our website at www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb9.


4. Review By Appointment:

Triennial Review documents may be viewed by appointment at the Regional Board office during regular business hours, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The office is located at 9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100, San Diego California 92123-4340.

Questions on Triennial Review

Any questions regarding the Triennial Review process should be sent to the Regional Board at tri_review@rb9.swrcb.ca.gov. Alternatively, you may contact Ms. Laurie Walsh at (858) 467-2970 or Ms. Jody Ebsen at (858) 636-3146. Thank you in advance for your contributions to this very important process.

Respectfully,


JOHN H. ROBERTUS
Executive Officer

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Public Solicitation Period and Public Workshop for Basin Plan Triennial Review
2. 2003 Basin Plan Triennial Review Comment Submittal Form
3. 2003 Basin Plan Triennial Review Electronic Mail List Subscription Instructions
4. 2003 Basin Plan Triennial Review U.S. Mail List Subscription Form

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